

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 3963, CHILDREN'S  
HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM  
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 25, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3963, a revised version of the Children's Health Insurance bill which the President vetoed on October 3 despite strong bipartisan support. Like the original, this bill ensures health care coverage for 10 million children.

This bill will preserve coverage for all 6.6 million children currently covered and will reach millions more children who are currently eligible but not yet enrolled. It is vital that we pass this important legislation to ensure that our nation's children receive the health care they deserve.

We cannot allow our children to slip through the cracks.

An overwhelming majority of the American people and Governors of both parties support our efforts to provide health insurance for our children.

Democrats have reached out to Republicans to craft this revised bill to address concerns that were raised with the original bill.

Today's vote will give the American people the opportunity to see whether these were legitimate concerns or merely political excuses.

This revised bill gives the President another opportunity to protect America's most vulnerable children. Let's send the President this bill giving him the chance to finally get this right.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in fulfilling our moral obligation to our nation's children by supporting this bill and giving them the health care they need and deserve.

HONORING ROSALIE DOWNS

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 29, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rosalie Downs, who will retire on January 2, 2008, after completing 50 years of federal service.

In 1957, Ms. Downs began her career with the Director of Accounting and Finance at the Department of the Air Force. She went on to work for the Directorate of Intelligence, Policy and Management Group the next year, and then moved to the Directorate of Operations, Bases and Units Division. In 1964, she assumed her current duties as Secretary of the Congressional Inquiry Branch, and in 1970, began serving in the Congressional Inquiry Division, Directorate of Legislative Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. During this period, the outstanding professional skill, leadership and ceaseless efforts of Ms. Downs resulted in key contributions to the effectiveness and success of the Congressional Inquiry Division. In this capacity, Ms. Downs performed superbly across a broad spectrum of congressional issues, while expertly assisting the Directorate in providing timely responses to tens of thousands of inquiries from Congress.

During her 50 years of work in the Office of Legislative Liaison, Ms. Downs has provided dedicated and professional service to both the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. She has developed close working relationships with many of our staffs, and her efforts have greatly enhanced congressional understanding of Air Force personnel matters. The distinctive accomplishments of Ms. Rosalie A. Downs culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of the federal government, and reflect great credit upon herself and the Department of the Air Force.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Rosalie Downs for her 50 years of service and dedication to the Federal Government. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Downs on her retirement and wishing her the best of luck in all future endeavors.

COMMENDING MICHAEL TOMPKINS  
FOR BEING INSTALLED AS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL  
APARTMENT ASSOCIATION

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 29, 2007*

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Michael Tompkins on being installed as Chairman of the Board of the National Apartment Association. Mr. Tompkins has been a leading advocate for quality rental housing in the state of Georgia for nearly two decades, where he has served on the Atlanta Apartment Association for over 13 years.

Applying his knowledge of the apartment industry, Mr. Tompkins has been an asset to the Atlanta Apartment Association, serving in a variety of roles, including president in 2001. In 2004, Mr. Tompkins served as president of the Georgia Apartment Association.

In addition to the impact Mr. Tompkins has made on the quality of rental property in the southeast, his philanthropic endeavors have also benefited the well-being of our community. He volunteers his time serving on several non-profit organization boards including the Southeastern Trustee for Boys and Girls Clubs, Atlanta Community Food Bank and the Emory University Board of Trustees, to name a few.

Madam Speaker, it is no small wonder that word of Mr. Tompkins' leadership in the advocacy of quality rental housing spread quickly, and he will now take his expertise to the national level, where he will chair an association comprised of more than 51,000 members and responsible for more than 6.1 million apartment homes nationwide.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Michael Tompkins for his commitment to improving the quality of rental homes in this country and representing the interests of renters throughout our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF GENERAL  
KEVIN P. CHILTON

**HON. DOUG LAMBORN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 29, 2007*

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude for General Kevin P. Chilton's service as Commander of the Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base. During his time there, General Chilton commanded over 39,700 professionals responsible for providing North American Aerospace Defense command and U.S. Strategic Command with combat forces and capabilities. In addition to managing the development, acquisition and operation of the Air Force's missile and space systems, the General also supervised missile warning and launch facilities, satellite command and control, and America's intercontinental ballistic missile force.

Before coming to AFSPC, General Chilton served as Commander, 8th Air Force, and Joint Functional Component Commander for Space and Global Strike, U.S. Strategic Command. General Chilton, who graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1976, is a Guggenheim Fellow with a Master of Science in mechanical engineering from Columbia University. After graduating from U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School in 1984 with the Liethen-Tittle Award for top graduate, General Chilton conducted weapons testing in models of F-4 and F-15. In 1987 he entered the National Aeronautics and Space Administration where he served as Deputy Program Manager for Operations for the International Space Station Program and flew on three space shuttle missions.

A capable leader, General Chilton has served on the Air Force Space Command Staff, the Joint Staff, the Air Staff and was the Commander of the 9th Reconnaissance Wing. His distinguished career has been marked by numerous awards including the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross, and NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal.

I wish to offer my sincere appreciation to General Chilton for his dedicated service to our nation and his contributions to Air Force Space Command.

THE MILITARY DOMESTIC AND  
SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESPONSE ACT

**HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 29, 2007*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, today, as we recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I am proud to introduce the Military Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Act. This important piece of legislation will ensure greater protections for service members and their families if they become victims of violence. It also will strengthen programs to prevent violence against fellow soldiers and military families.

Unfortunately, sexual assault and domestic violence are pervasive and serious problems